

2025:PHHC:105382



CRM-M-32913-2025

219

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-32913-2025

Date of decision: August 13, 2025

Lakhwinder Singh @ Billa @ Lucky

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL**Present:-** Mr. Yashpal Thakur, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Baljinder Singh Sra, Additional AG Punjab.

SUMEET GOEL, J. (ORAL)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case bearing FIR No.89 dated 26.04.2025, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 22/61/85 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (for short 'NDPS Act') and Section 111 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNS'), at Police Station Gobindgarh Mandi, District Fatehgarh-Sahib, Punjab.

2. The gravamen of the allegations against the petitioner is that he is an accused of being involved in an FIR pertaining to NDPS Act involving intoxicant tablets (Alprazolam) (40.185 grams) allegedly recovered from the petitioner.

3. Learned State counsel has filed status report by way of an affidavit dated 12.08.2025 of Gurdeep Singh, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub-Division Amloh, District Fatehgarh Sahib, in the Court today,

2025:PHHC:105382



CRM-M-32913-2025

which is taken on record. A copy thereof has been furnished to the learned counsel for the petitioner.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner has iterated that the petitioner is in custody since 26.04.2025. Learned counsel has further iterated that the contraband alleged recovered from the petitioner is non-commercial in nature. To buttress this aspect of the argument, reliance has been placed on para-7 of the aforesaid status report, which reads thus:

“7. That as per the Forensic Science Laboratory report, the total weight of the recovered contraband comes to 40.185 grams (285 tablets x 126 mg = 35.91 grams, 15 tablets x 155 mg = 2.325 grams, and 15 tablets x 130 mg = 1.95 grams). The contents of the tablets were found to contain Alprazolam. The recovered quantity thus falls under the category of non-commercial quantity under the NDPS Act.”

4.1. Learned counsel has further argued that mandatory provisions of the NDPS Act have not been complied with, and thus, the prosecution case suffers from inherent defects. Learned counsel has argued that the petitioner has been falsely implicated into the FIR in question. Thus, regular bail is prayed for.

5. Learned State counsel has opposed the present petition by arguing that the allegations raised against the petitioner are serious in nature and, thus, he does not deserve the concession of the regular bail. Learned State counsel seeks to place on record custody certificate dated 12.08.2025 in the Court today, which is taken on record.

6. I have heard counsel for the rival parties and have gone through the available records of the case.

2025:PHHC:105382



CRM-M-32913-2025

7. The petitioner was arrested on 26.04.2025 whereinafter investigation was carried out and challan was presented on 25.06.2025. Total 13 prosecution witnesses have been cited, but none has been examined till date. It is thus, indubitable that conclusion of the trial will take long. The rival contentions raised at Bar give rise to debatable issues shall be ratiocinated upon during the course of trial. This Court does not deem it appropriate to delve deep into these rival contentions, at this stage, lest it may prejudice the trial. Nothing tangible has been brought forward to indicate the likelihood of the petitioner absconding from the process of justice or interfering with the prosecution evidence.

7.1. As per custody certificate dated 12.08.2025 filed by the learned State counsel, the petitioner has already suffered incarceration for a period of more than 03 months. Further, as per the said custody certificate the petitioner is stated to be involved in multiple FIR(s). However, this factum cannot be a ground sufficient by itself, to decline the concession of regular bail to the petitioner in the FIR in question when a case is made out for grant of regular bail *qua* the FIR in question by ratiocinating upon the facts/circumstances of the said FIR. Reliance in this regard can be placed upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Maulana Mohd. Amir Rashadi v. State of U.P. and another, 2012 (1) RCR (Criminal) 586*; a Division Bench judgment of the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court in case of *Sridhar Das v. State, 1998 (2) RCR (Criminal) 477* & judgments of this Court in CRM-M No.38822-2022 titled as *Akhilesh Singh v. State of Haryana*, decided on 29.11.2021, and *Balraj v. State of Haryana, 1998 (3) RCR (Criminal) 191*.

2025:PHHC:105382



CRM-M-32913-2025

Suffice to say, further detention of the petitioner as an undertrial is not warranted in the facts and circumstances of the case.

8. In view of above, the present petition is allowed. Petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Ld. concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate. However, in addition to conditions that may be imposed by the concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate, the petitioner shall remain bound by the following conditions:

- (i) The petitioner shall not mis-use the liberty granted.
- (ii) The petitioner shall not tamper with any evidence, oral or documentary, during the trial.
- (iii) The petitioner shall not absent himself on any date before the trial.
- (iv) The petitioner shall not commit any offence while on bail.
- (v) The petitioner shall deposit his passport, if any, with the trial Court.
- (vi) The petitioner shall give his cellphone number to the Investigating Officer/SHO of concerned Police Station and shall not change his cell-phone number without prior permission of the trial Court/Illaq Magistrate.
- (vii) The petitioner shall not in any manner try to delay the trial.
- (viii) The petitioner shall submit, on the first working day of every month, an affidavit, before the concerned trial Court, to the effect that he has not been involved in commission of any offence after being released on bail. In case the petitioner is found to be involved in any offence after his being enlarged on bail in the present FIR, on the basis of his affidavit or otherwise, the State is mandated to move, forthwith, for cancellation of his bail which plea, but of course, shall be ratiocinated upon merits thereof.

9. In case of breach of any of the aforesaid conditions and those which may be imposed by concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate as directed hereinabove or upon showing any other sufficient cause, the State/complainant shall be at liberty to move cancellation of bail of the petitioner.

10. Ordered accordingly.

2025:PHHC:105382



CRM-M-32913-2025

- 11. Nothing said hereinabove shall be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.
- 12. Since the main case has been decided, pending miscellaneous application, if any, shall also stands disposed off.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

August 13, 2025
mahavir

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
Whether reportable: Yes/No